



Katz

Katz School
of Science and Health

M.S. in Physician Assistant Studies

PA PROGRAM COMPETENCIES

Medical Knowledge

New graduates will be able to:

Apply comprehensive knowledge of biologic and clinical sciences to provide acute, chronic, urgent, and emergent, patient-centered care to include women's health, prenatal care, and care across the life span (infants, children, adolescents, adult, and the elderly).

MK1: Apply principles of basic and clinical science, including anatomy, physiology, pathophysiology, and genetics to identify, diagnose, and provide patient centered care to healthy and ill patients.

MK2: Recognize the etiology, risk factors, and epidemiology of various medical conditions.

MK3: Formulate an accurate differential diagnosis based on the patient presentation, historical and physical exam findings, or clinical manifestations of disease.

MK4: Select, interpret, and apply diagnostic studies to inform clinical decision-making related to patient care.

MK5: Differentiate pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic treatment strategies, including patient education and counseling, in caring for healthy and ill patients who present with various medical conditions.

Communication and Interpersonal Skills

New graduates will be able to:

Communicate effectively with patients, families, and health team members, incorporating cultural humility and compassion to build meaningful therapeutic and interprofessional relationships.

CIS1 Use effective communication skills to elicit and provide information to patients, families, and health team members.

CIS2 Establish rapport with patients and families to build meaningful, therapeutic relationships.

CIS3 Demonstrate sensitivity, honesty, and compassion to provide care that is responsive to diverse cultural health beliefs and practices, preferred languages, health literacy, and other needs.

CIS4 Establish rapport and respectful working relationships and interact effectively with all members of the health care team.

Clinical and Technical Skills

New graduates will be able to:

Demonstrate the clinical and technical skills required to provide age-appropriate assessment, evaluation, and management of patients.

CTS 1 Conduct effective, patient-centered history-taking and physical examination for comprehensive and problem-focused patient visits.

CTS 2 Convey aspects of a patient encounter to all health care team members through accurate and timely written and verbal communication.

CTS 3 Perform procedural and clinical skills considered essential for entry into PA practice.

CTS 4 Counsel and educate patients and families from diverse backgrounds to empower them to participate in their care and enable shared decision-making.

Professionalism

New graduates will be able to:

Demonstrate integrity, deep understanding of the practice environment, and a commitment to lifelong learning that enables them to provide high quality, equitable care for individuals and communities.

P1 Collaborate with physicians, other health professionals, and health care teams to optimize team member roles and coordinate care.

P2 Demonstrate an understanding of honest, ethical practice, respect for the dignity and privacy of patients, including maintaining confidentiality, patient autonomy, and informed consent in the delivery of team-based care.

P3 Exhibit an understanding of the regulatory environment, and laws and regulations regarding professional practice.

P4 Approach the provision of quality care with consideration to financial impact, safety, and cost-effective resource allocation.

P5 Recognize the impact of societal, psychosocial, and cultural influences on health care and health outcomes, to care for patients and communities.

Clinical Reasoning and Problem Solving

New graduates will be able to:

Analyze and synthesize relevant clinical, diagnostic, cultural, and contextual information to diagnose and manage patients across the lifespan (prenatal, infant, children, adolescents, adult, and the elderly).

CRPS1 Synthesize information acquired through all aspects of patient encounters and the medical literature to develop appropriate differential diagnoses and management plans for acute, chronic, and emergent health conditions.

CRPS2 Interpret data collected from diagnostic, laboratory, and imaging studies and procedures to accurately diagnose acute, chronic, and emergent health conditions.

CRPS3 Formulate health management strategies, including pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic therapies, and patient education, in the prevention and treatment of acute, chronic, and emergent conditions.

CRPS4 Integrate understanding of cultural, socioeconomic, environmental, and other population level impacts on health into medical decision-making and the development of individualized care plans.

Society and Population Health

New graduates will be able to:

Recognize and understand that the influences of the larger community may affect the health of patients and integrate knowledge of social determinants of health into care decisions

SPH1 Recognize the cultural norms, needs, influences, and socioeconomic, environmental, and other population-level determinants affecting the health of the individual and community being served.

SPH2 Recognize the potential impacts of the community, biology, and genetics on patients and incorporate them into decisions of care

SPH3 Demonstrate accountability and responsibility for removing barriers to health, such as health literacy

SPH4 Describe the role of structural disparities in causing illness

SPH5 Approach the provision of quality care with consideration to financial impact, safety, and cost-effective resource allocation.

SPH6 Engage members of the health care team in the surveillance of community resources to sustain and improve health

SPH7 Elicit and hear the story of the individual and apply the context of the individual's life (including environmental influences, culture, and disease) when determining healthy versus ill patients.

Practice Based Learning

New graduates will be able to:

Engage in critical analysis of one's own practice experience, the medical literature, and other information resources for the purposes of self-evaluation, lifelong learning, and clinical practice improvement.

PBL1 Cultivate self-reflection, critical curiosity, and initiative in self and clinical practice as it pertains to others.

PBL2 Locate, appraise, and integrate evidence from scientific studies to clinical practice.

PBL3 Recognize and address personal biases and gaps in medical knowledge through lifelong learning

PBL4 Analyze and propose solutions for practice-based factors to improve patient care